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Aladdin™

LEGACY OF THE LOST



IAN EDGINTON

PATRICK REILLY

Aladdin™

LEGACY OF THE LOST

ISSUE 1 of 3

WRITTEN BY IAN EDGINTON

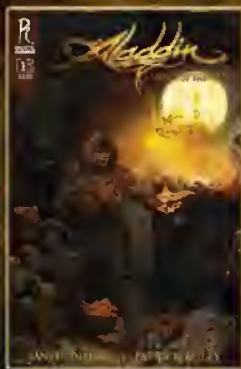
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"YOU'RE LATE!"





THE...UH,
INFORMATION YOU
WANTED WASN'T
EASY TO COME BY.
WE INCURRED...
ADDITIONAL COSTS. LIPS
TEND NOT TO LOOSEN
'LESS PALMS HAVE
BEEN GREASED,
IF Y'KNOW WHAT
I MEAN!




VERY
WELL, THIS
WILL COVER
IT.



YOU'RE
MOST GENEROUS,
MY LORD,
QASSIM.




NOW, TELL ME
EVERYTHING.



THE
WOMAN YOU
WANTED, SHE'S
DEAD. BEEN IN
THE DIRT THESE
PAST TWENTY
YEARS.

SHE HAD A
CHILD... A SON.
IN FACT, THAT'S
HOW SHE DIED, IN
CHILDBIRTH. SHE WAS
LIVIN' ROUGH ON THE
STREET WHEN THE
MISTRESS OF A
LOCAL BORDELLO
TOOK PITY ON HER
AN' GAVE HER
SHELTER.



THE KID WAS
BORN IN HER BROTHEL
AN' RAISED BY THE
WHORES. HE STILL LIVES IN
THE CITY, IN SHAMBHALLA.
HE'S A GAMBLER AN' A
THIEF. HIS NAME'S
ALADDIN.

HE'S GONE
INTO BUSINESS
F'HIMSELF. BEIN'
BROUGHT UP BY
WHORES MUST'VE
RUBBED OFF ON
HIM, EH?




WHEN I
WANT YOUR
OPINION,
I'LL GIVE IT
TO YOU!




WHERE IN
SHAMBHALLA
CAN I FIND
THIS BOY?

IT'S ALL
HERE. NAMES.
PLACES.



VERY THOROUGH,
BUT TELL ME, IF YOU
WENT TO SUCH
LENGTHS, WHY DID YOU
NOT SIMPLY BRING
HIM TO ME?



YOU SAID THAT YOU ONLY
WANTED THE WOMAN. WHEN WE FOUND
OUT SHE WAS DEAD WE TRAILED THE
BOY INSTEAD... THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE
USEFUL? WE CAN GO BACK AN'
GRAB HIM ANYTIME!


BUT IT'LL
COST!



THAT'S RIGHT.
WE HAVE OVERHEADS.
BRIBES TO PAY, YOU
KNOW HOW IT IS.
IT'S BUSINESS!

OF COURSE.
TELL ME, IS THIS
EVERYTHING? THERE
ARE NO NOTES?
NO COPIES?

NOT
A ONE, AS YOU
REQUESTED.



VERY GOOD.
UNFORTUNATELY,
YOU'RE PROBABLY LYING
THROUGH YOUR TEETH
AND PLAN TO BETRAY
ME AT THE EARLIEST
OCCASION!



ERGO...





"RUN!"

AHHHH!
AHHHH!
AHHHH!



NO!



NHH!
HNNHH!
NOT ME!



NUHH...
NOT ME!
NOT ME!



AHHHH!
AHHHHH!
NUH...NUHH...
NOT ME!

KSSSAAAAHH!

AAAAHH!





HM, HE DID
NOT HAVE A HEAD
FOR BUSINESS
AFTER ALL.

SHAMBHALLA
THEN... THAT IS A
COINCIDENCE.
OR
PERHAPS
NOT.



SO, IT
APPEARS THIS
WIFE AND STRAY
IS TO BE MY
DESTINY.



"AS I AM SHORTLY
TO BECOME HIS."

HE
WINS AGAIN!
DOUBLE
SIX!



IT PAINS ME GREATLY TO TAKE YOUR MONEY, GENTLEMEN, BUT I'M SURE I CAN LEARN TO LIVE WITH IT!

A RUN OF FIVE DOUBLE SIXES! NO ONE'S THAT FORTUNATE!



PERHAPS, BUT IT ALSO MEANS THE ODDS ARE LONG ON MY WINNING ANOTHER GAME. CARE TO TRY YOUR HAND?

AYE, BUT WHAT SAY WE CHANGE THE DICE FIRST?



FINE. I'LL HANG ON TO THESE, THOUGH, IF IT'S ALL THE SAME? THEY'VE BEEN LUCKY FOR ME.



HAVEN'T THEY JUST!

HEY!

SHUT YOUR HOLE! SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT HERE!



DINK



HOW
LUCKY IS
THAT?



LET US SEE...
IF IT IS TRULY
GOOD FORTUNE...
OR FAKERY!



THEY'RE
HOLLOW...
WEIGHTED WITH
LEAD! THEY'RE
RIGGED!



HEY, COME ON,
FAZIEL! I PICKED THOSE
UP IN THE MARKET
THIS MORNING! HOW WAS
I TO KNOW THEY
WERE LOADED?

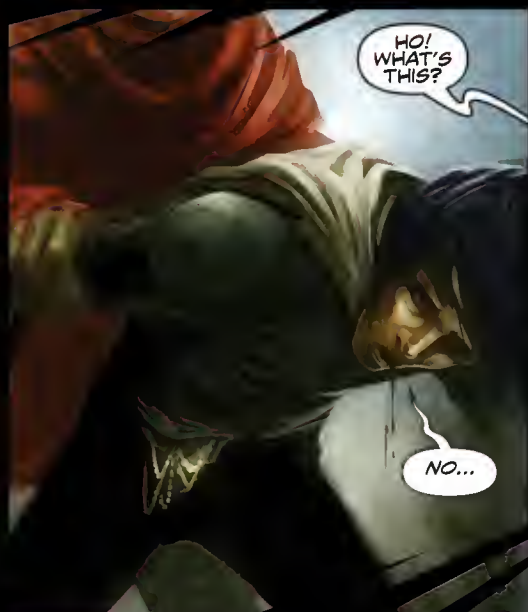
DON'T PLAY
THE FOOL WITH ME!
IT'S TOO LATE FOR
THAT! I WOULDN'T
WANT TO BE IN
YOUR SHOES
RIGHT NOW!



THAT'S
GOOD
THEN...

NHK!







NOT ANYMORE.
NOW WE'LL DECIDE
WHETHER TO LEAVE
A FILTHY LIAR AND
THIEF LIKE YOU
HIS HANDS.



THO' FOR
FURNISHING
US WITH SUCH A
BOUNTY, PERHAPS
WE'LL BE LENIENT
AND TAKE JUST
THE ONE?

HAH! HA!
HAH! HA!



THSSMMJLLSS...



WHAT WAS
THAT?



I SAID, I
THOUGHT I KNEW
WHERE THERE WERE
MORE JEWELS...



UHK!!

BUT
THEY'RE
JUST GLASS
BALLS!





"THE NAME OF ALADDIN WILL BE A CURSE ON THE LIPS OF ANYONE IN SHAMBHALLA WHO GIVES YOU SUCCOUR OR SHELTER!"



LATER.

"THE ALMIGHTY
PISSES IN MY
POCKET YET
AGAIN, IBRAHIM."



SO? WELCOME
TO MY LIFE. YOU
GOING TO ORDER
OR WHAT?

WHAT'S
CHEAPEST?
MINT TEA OR
A QUICK
DEATH?

THE TEA.
LESS MESS
FOR ME TO
CLEAN UP.



ALADDIN?

OH, SOFIA,
SAMARA.
WHAT DO YOU
WANT?



COME TO
GLOAT?



MADAM NAOMI ASKED
US TO FIND YOU. SHE
HEARD WHAT HAPPENED.
WERE YOU REALLY TRYING
TO CHEAT FAZIEL?

CORRECTION, I
DID CHEAT FAZIEL.
UNFORTUNATELY, I DIDN'T
THINK TO QUIT WHILE
I WAS AHEAD.



AS YOU
CAN SEE, THEY
TOOK BACK THEIR
LOSSES WITH
INTEREST!



THEY'RE KILLERS.
YOU ONLY HAVE TO
LOOK AT THEM THE
WRONG WAY TO FIND A
DAGGER BETWEEN YOUR
RIBS! YOU WERE LUCKY
TO ESCAPE WITH
YOUR LIFE!



THAT'S NOT
EXACTLY A COMFORT
RIGHT NOW! IF YOU'RE
HERE TO HELP, I COULD
USE A LOAN. THEY
CLEANED ME OUT.

NOT A CHANCE.
MADAM NAOMI
STILL CARES ABOUT
YOU, BUT YOU
USED UP ALL YOUR
FAVOURS WITH US
LONG AGO.



HOW AM
I SUPPOSED
TO LIVE?

WORK,
LIKE THE REST
OF US!

ON YOUR
BACKS? IT'S
ON TOP OR
NOTHING
FOR ME!



YOU NEED TO TAKE
BETTER CARE OF YOURSELF,
ALADDIN. NOT SO LONG AGO,
YOU WERE A SWEET BOY BUT
NOW, YOU'VE BECOME SLY
AND BITTER.

THIS ISN'T THE
LIFE FOR YOU. IT'LL
CHEW YOU UP AND
SPIT YOU OUT. LEAVE
YOU A SHELL OF
A MAN.



FINE, BE LIKE THAT! I DON'T NEED YOU! I HAVE FRIENDS!

WHO? YOU'VE CONNED, DOUBLE-CROSSED AND CHEATED EVERYONE YOU KNOW!



GO TO HELL! GO TO HELL AND BE DAMNED, ALL OF YOU!



CAPTAIN SINBAD, YOU DON'T HAVE TO.

HERE, THIS SHOULD COVER THE DAMAGE.

HE DOESN'T DESERVE PITY.



THE BOY'S LOST. HE DOESN'T KNOW WHO HE IS OR WHERE HE CAME FROM. HE'S TRYING TO FIND HIS PLACE IN THE WORLD, BUT HE'S WALKING UNDER A DIRE SHADOW...

"ONLY HE CAN SAVE HIMSELF.
HE NEEDS TO GET A HOLD
OF HIS LIFE BEFORE THE
DARKNESS CONSUMES HIM."



YOUNG
MAN, I NEED
YOU...

GET AWAY!
GET LOST!

I HAVE A
PROPOSITION
FOR YOU!

WHAT?!
I DON'T DO
THAT KIND
OF THING!
TRY THE
DOCKS!

I DO
NOT NEED
A WHORE!
I WANT A
THIEF!

NUH! I... I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
TALKING ABOUT!
I... I'M A SILK
MERCHANT!

AND NOT A
VERY GOOD
ONE WITH A
FACE LIKE
THAT!



DON'T PLAY
COY WITH ME, BOY!
I AM OFFERING YOU
AS MUCH TREASURE
AS YOU CAN CARRY,
ALL FOR BARELY
A MORNING'S
WORK!



IF YOU'RE
SERIOUS,
HOW ABOUT
SOMETHING ON
ACCOUNT?



AN ACT
OF GOOD
FAITH? VERY
WELL...



HHH...



HOW DID
YOU...?

IT IS
NOTHING. A
TRIFLE...

"NOW, DO WE
HAVE AN ACCORD?"

YOU SAID THIS
WAS HALF A DAY'S
WORK! WE'VE BEEN
TRAVELLING FOR THREE!
WHERE ARE WE,
ANYWAY?

ON THE SITE
OF THE MOST
FABULOUS CITY
THE WORLD HAD
EVER SEEN...THE
FIRST CITY.

THE CITY OF
THE ARAMASPI...
THE CITY OF
SORCERERS!

IF YOU
SAY SO.

HERE.
THIS IS WHERE
WE BEGIN!

IT'S
A DEAD
END?

NOT
TO ME!

AK

WHAT IS
THAT?

A
LOCK.

SO
WHERE'S
THE KEY?



PLACE
YOUR HAND
UPON IT.

WHY?



BECAUSE
I SAID SO!



IT'S
WARM!



HOW IS THIS
POSSIBLE?

RRUMMMMMMBLE

IT IS OF
NO MATTER!
NOW, YOU
REMEMBER THE
DIRECTIONS
I GAVE
YOU?



YES.

DEVIATE FROM THEM,
LOSE YOUR WAY, AND YOU ARE
DEAD. YOU HAVE THIRTEEN
MINUTES TO FIND THE ARTIFACT
AND RETURN - UNTIL THE
SANDS RUN OUT.



ANY OTHER RICHES
YOU ACQUIRE ARE YOURS, BUT
FORSAKE MY PRIZE FOR THEM
AND YOU WILL SPEND THE REST
OF YOUR SHORT LIFE LEARNING
THE TRUE MEANING OF PAIN.
IS THAT CLEAR?

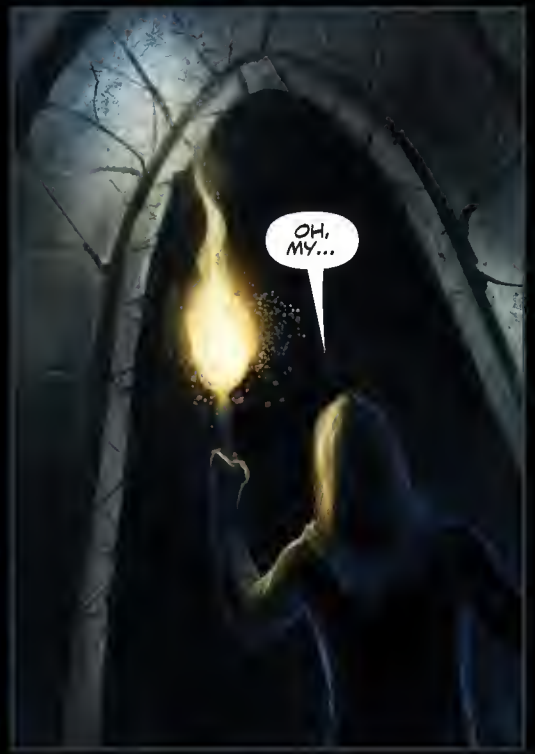
PERFECTLY.



THEN GO...
AND GOOD
HUNTING!

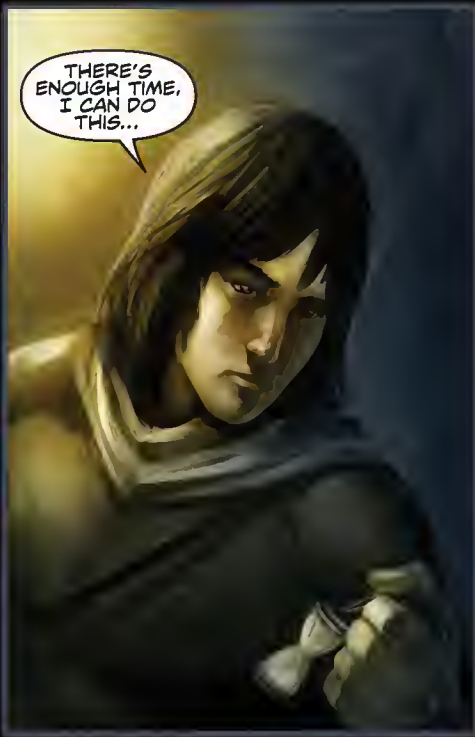






HA! HAH-HAH!
OH YES, THIS IS IT
ALRIGHT!









IT'S NOTHING
COMPARED TO WHAT'S
IN THERE! I'VE BEEN THINKING,
THE DOORWAY ONLY STAYS
OPEN FOR THIRTEEN MINUTES, BUT
THERE'S A LOT OF THIRTEEN
MINUTES IN A DAY.

BETWEEN US,
WE COULD EMPTY
THE PLACE. WE'D BE
SET FOR LIFE!

I HAVE
EVERYTHING I
DESIRE, RIGHT
HERE!

THAT'S
FINE FOR YOU,
BUT WHAT
ABOUT ME?

WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?

KKSSSHAA

AAAH!



WE
HAD A
DEAL!

AND ITS CONDITIONS
ARE FULFILLED! I HAVE
THE LAMP; YOU HAVE AS
MUCH TREASURE AS
YOU CAN BEAR.

HOWEVER,
I DID NOT STIPULATE
WHETHER YOU WOULD
LIVE LONG ENOUGH
TO SPEND IT.

GRAHHGH!

NNNH!



AHUU-AHUU-
AHUUH!

SS
SSSSSSSSSS



RHUU
Uooo

BY ALL
THAT'S SAINTED
AND HOLY!





IT'S A PITY,
REALLY. THAT
THE HERITAGE
YOU ARE KIN TO,
IS WASTED ON SUCH
AN IMBECILIC
STREET-SCUM
AS YOU!



NGHHH!



THIS
STREET-SCUM
ALSO HAPPENS
TO BE THE BEST
PICKPOCKET IN
SHAMBHALLA!

A VAIN
EFFORT,
BOY!



KHSSSAA!

THERE'S
NOWHERE
TO RUN!
YOUR TIME
IS DONE!

HKSSS!



SHUDDUMM

YAAHHH!

SHHICRUMMBLE

NOOOO!

WHO'S
THE IMBECILE
NOW, EH?

AH!



THERE'S
GOT TO BE
ANOTHER WAY
OUT OF
HERE...



ONLY
ONE WAY
TO FIND
OUT.



WHOA!
TOO
CLOSE...

CRNCH



NO SECOND
CHANCES DOWN
HERE!



SKNIKK



KHIKK
KHIKK
KHIKK



KHSSSSS!



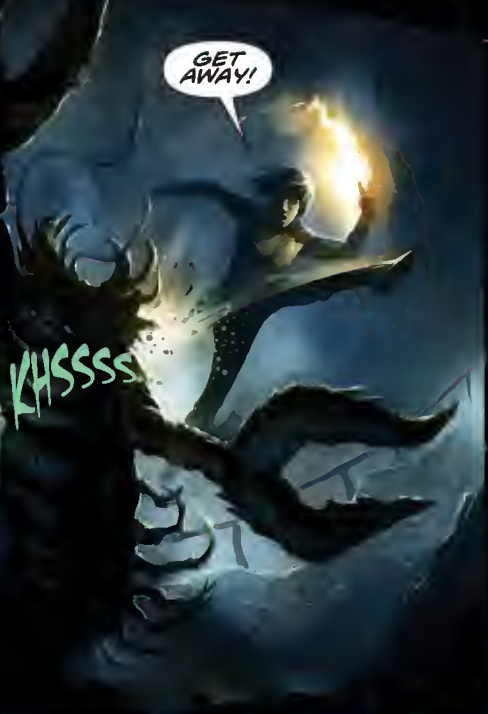






OH,
NO...

SNIKKA
SNIKK-SNAKK



GET
AWAY!

KHSSSS



KHITT-KHITT! KHIII!
SNAKKT! SNIKK!

WHAT I
WOULDN'T GIVE
FOR A GOOD
SWORD RIGHT
NOW!



THE LAMP!
THERE SHOULD
BE OIL IN IT!



COME
ON! JUST A
LITTLE...!



GAH!
USELESS
THING! YOU'RE
NO GOOD TO
ANYONE!



UHHH!

FLASHOOOM!

WHO
SUMMONS ME
FORTH?



SHAMBHALLA.





BUT... BUT...
WHO? HOW...
WHEN?

I CANNOT SAY,
HIGHNESS. ALL I KNOW
IS THAT ONE SECOND
IT WAS NOT THERE,
THEN IN THE BLINK OF
AN EYE - IT WAS!

FATHER,
WHAT'S
HAPPENING?
WHERE DID
IT COME
FROM?



AH, ALESHA,
MY DEAREST,
DARLING GIRL! DO
NOT DISTRESS
YOURSELF!



I WAS WATCHING FROM MY WINDOW. IT APPEARED IN AN INSTANT! HOW CAN SUCH A THING BE?

I DO NOT KNOW, BUT REST ASSURED I SHALL TURN OUT THE ENTIRE CITY GARRISON TO BRING WHOEVER IS BEHIND THIS TO ACCOUNT!



WITH RESPECT, FATHER, IS THAT WISE?


OF COURSE IT IS! OUR LAND HAS BEEN INVADED. WE CANNOT LET SUCH A GESTURE GO UNCHALLENGED!

WE HAVE NOT BEEN INVADED... YET, AND I DOUBT WE WILL BE. TO MAKE SUCH A STRUCTURE APPEAR THUS, IMPLIES ITS LORD UNDOUBTEDLY HAS ACCESS TO A SORCERER'S SKILLS, OR IS ONE HIM...OR HERSELF.

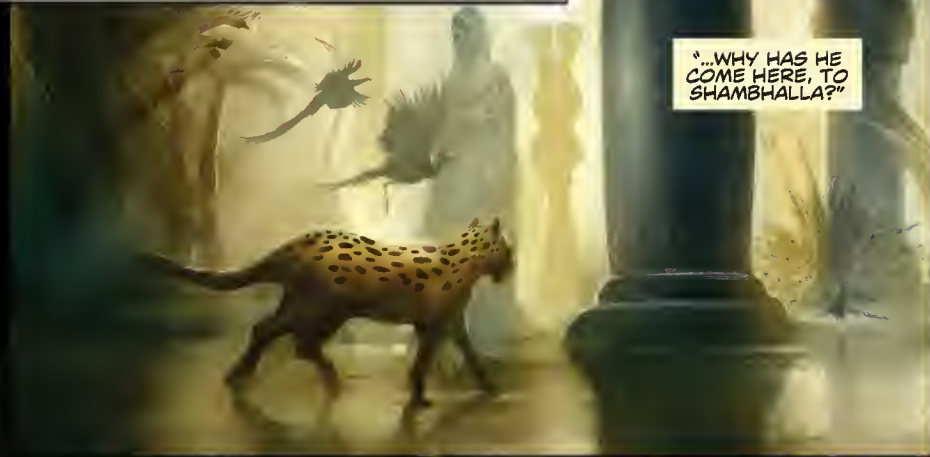
IF THEY WISHED TO INVADE, I DARE SAY THEY WOULD HAVE ALREADY DONE SO. EITHER WAY, IT WOULD NOT BE WISE TO ANNOY THEM.

SHE HAS A POINT!

A MIND AND WIT AS KEEN AS A BLADE, JUST LIKE HER POOR, LATE MOTHER.



THERE IS ONE THING, THOUGH...



TO BE CONTINUED...

